



For Immediate Release

The Tire Society Announces the First Recipient of the “Tire Society Distinguished Achievement Award”

Akron, Ohio, USA – June 23, 2009 - The Tire Society announced today the first recipient of the “**Tire Society Distinguished Achievement Award**”, a recognition bestowed on individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of tire science and technology. This award is given bi-annually and this year will be formally presented at the 28th Annual Conference on Tire Science & Technology hosted by The Tire Society at the Akron City Centre Hotel in Akron, Ohio, USA on September 15, 2009.

This year’s recipient is the late **Samuel K. Clark**. The life-time achievement and record of contributions by Dr. Clark, (1924-2006), to tire science and technology and his mentorship and support of technical organizations made him an exemplary inaugural recipient for this reward.

Dr. Clark made seminal research contributions in studies related to aircraft and automotive tires. His research has been sponsored by major rubber, automobile, and aircraft companies as well as by the U.S. Air Force, NASA, NSF, and the Department of Transportation and he authored over 100 journal articles and research reports. Dr. Clark was asked to write a book on tire mechanics, and in 1971, the U.S. Bureau of Standards published his first edition of “Mechanics of Pneumatic Tires.” Since then, tire engineers have relied on Sam Clark’s book for detailed information about the principles of tire design and use. In 1981, a substantially revised second edition was published. He also served as chair of an Editorial Board composed of leading executives of the tire industry, which provided guidance during the monograph’s third revision.

Dr. Clark was a founding member of The Tire Society, and presented the first plenary lecture, by invitation, at the first meeting of The Tire Society in 1982. He was an Associate Editor of The Journal of Tire Science and Technology until his death. He was also a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, The Society for Experimental Stress Analysis, the National Materials Advisory Board Committee on Surface Effect Vehicles, and The Society of Automotive Engineers. In honor of his many achievements, he was named a fellow of the Society of Automotive Engineers in 1985. Dr. Clark was a professor of mechanical engineering for over 50 years at the University of Michigan where he taught and mentored hundreds of students, many of whom continue to contribute to tire research.

The Tire Society, Inc. is an Ohio not-for-profit corporation with worldwide membership whose charter is to increase and disseminate knowledge as it pertains to the science, and technology of tires. It hosts a two-day Meeting and Conference in Akron, Ohio every year which includes the presentation of twenty to thirty original papers as well as a plenary lecture by a leader in Tire Mechanics. In addition, it edits and distributes a critically reviewed, authoritative journal, Tire Science and Technology on a quarterly basis. For more information about The Tire Society, the “Tire Society Distinguished Achievement Award”, and this year’s conference, visit www.tiresociety.org.

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